

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 9, 10, 13, 14, and 17 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sarbadhikari et al. (US 5,477,264) in view of Fukuoka (US 6,104,430).

Claims 3, 4, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15 and 16 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but the Examiner has indicated that such claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

By this amendment, claim 1 has been changed to include the allowable subject matter of claim 3, and claim 3 has been cancelled. Accordingly, amended claim 1 is believed to be patentable over the prior art. Claims 2, 5, 6 and 9 depend on amended claim 1, and therefore, are believed to be patentable at least due to their dependency on amended claim 1.

Claim 10 has been amended to include the allowable subject matter of claim 11, and claim 11 has been cancelled. Accordingly, amended claim 10 is believed to be patentable over the prior art. Claims 13, 14 and 17 depend on amended claim 10, and therefore, are believed to be patentable at least due to their dependency on amended claim 10.

New claims 18 and 19 have been added which incorporate the allowable subject matter of claims 4 and 7, respectively, into claim 1. Claims 4 and 7 have been cancelled, and claim 8 has been amended to depend on new claim 19. Accordingly, new claims 18 and 19, and amended claim 8 are believed to be patentable over the prior art.

New claims 20 and 21 have been added which incorporate the allowable subject matter of claims 12 and 15, respectively, into claim 10. Claims 12 and 15 have been cancelled, and claim 16 has been amended to depend on new claim 21. Accordingly, new claims 20 and 21, and amended claim 16 are believed to be patentable over the prior art.

If there are any formal matters remaining after this response, Applicants' attorney would appreciate a telephone call to attend to these matters.

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that the claims in the application are allowable over the prior art and such allowance is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees in connection with this communication to Eastman Kodak Company Deposit Account No. 05-0225.

A duplicate copy of this communication is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Pamela R. Crocker", is written over a horizontal line.

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